

Rev. J. R. Barbour

Charlton Centre May 4. 1839

My Dear Bro. P.

I have been absent all the week — came home yesterday morning. I found yours, and also brother Tarry's to you, on my table. I had time to write him by yesterday's mail, & today write you. — I thank you & him for your kindness, and hope I shall make out in the matter in hand —

As to that other matter I have ascertained that her health is improving. I from her letters her friends infer that she is quite well. Her name is Lucy Pomeroy. She is a very fine girl. I should think from having seen her several times in her father's family, ^{I from her general reputation} she is somewhere between 26 & 30. nearer 26 I should think. middling size. good looking, easy manners, & well educated. Her father is in quite easy circumstances, & has spared no expense in the education of his family. She is quite devoted in

her christian character, - & has withal
quite a finished musical education,
plays the organ & piano finely, and
sings finely. She is expected home
early in the season, being now
as I mentioned before, at the
south, for the benefit of her health.

But there are two objections (1) ^{to} ~~her~~ ^{her} ~~case~~ ^{case}.
Her case was considered quite critical
before she went south, - a spinal
affection was, I believe, her ^{difficulty} ~~trouble~~
& the lungs became somewhat ~~troubled~~
sore, by sympathy, as was supposed.
I understand she writes in good spir-
its, & expresses full hopes as to herself.
but I should have some fears about
her case, yet we can tell better after
she returns. She has been about I believe
about two years. (2). Her father does
not like abolitionism very well.
He is a very likely man, & a very
uninvolved man, but ~~rather~~ ^{his} father
Fish talks anti-slavery, the old man
feels a little nettled. I do not know
that he is violent in his feelings - sur-
port he is not. As to her feelings on this
point I know nothing. But from fa-
ther's influence, & from her residence

at the south, I from our knowledge
of "poor human nature" as my father
Garrison used to say, it would not
be strange if she should come home
with the old story on her sweet
lips. ~~then~~ ^{"the"} slaves are better treated, are
happier, & more contented &c. &c. than
I expected to find them." And yet it
may be all the other way. & if so, so much
the more credit to her pity, I discernment.
At any rate I do not regard this thing
as amounting to any very
serious objection. The day
has gone by for an abo-
litionist, as such, to be dis-
pirited. I ~~like~~ ^{like} it with Miss P. ~~was~~
now any other girl will lose a good
chance to get a good hubby on this
account. My wife, & her mother & sister
were ^{rather} effish on this subject when
I popped the great question, but now
they are good & true abolitionists. They
wanted light. So too. I trust I shall not
in the case of Miss P.

As to my going to New York. I have
doubts whether, owing to circumstances
that I have no room to state. I can go.
I feel exceedingly anxious to go. - the meeting

will be one of vast moment to the cause -
wide spreading & far reaching in its results.
May our glorious Saviour give you
much wisdom -

Very affectionately

Yours. J. R. Barber

Charlton Centre
Mass May 3^d 1839.

Rev. A. A. Phelps
Boston
Mass